

Bruce Wood Sunstor 3090 South Highway 14 Greer, SC 29650

www.sunstor.net 864-297-6776

January 3, 2007

Public Service Commission of S.C. P.O. Box 11649 Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RE: Docket 2005-385-E

DOCKETING DEPT.

Posted: **LOCA** Dent: S.A.

Date:

Time: 5,00

Dear Commissioners,

Please accept this letter to the commission as a formal comment on Docket 2005-385-E (net metering in South Carolina). I am the owner of Sunstor, a Greenville, SC based solar design and installation company that serves the Carolinas and north Georgia. I have been in the solar industry for over 30 years and feel competent in providing the commissioners with veritable data supporting net metering for the people of South Carolina.

The reasons for the commission supporting a favorable net-metering rule are many and overwhelming. I will detail a few of these reasons:

- 1. Individuals or businesses wanting to go net-zero on their electric usage by implementing solar need to have net-metering rules to make that option viable.
- Solar energy keeps state dollars within South Carolina borders. It would reduce the existing flow of money leaving South Carolina for coal, natural gas, or uranium purchases. None of these fuels exist naturally in SC.
- Solar power generation peaks when the grid needs it the most, the long sunny days of summer. Off-setting these peak power electric generations with clean solar energy is a perfect net metering bonus.
- At its current growth rate solar photovoltaics will be the fastest growing industry over the next 10 – 20 years. South Carolina will continue to lose ground in this industry without net metering.
- 5. Solar energy is a completely clean source of energy. Fair net metering is a proven method of promoting solar as a viable renewable energy.
- 6. Forty states currently support net metering.
- 7. The solar industry in South Carolina would experience a boon with the option of installing more cost effective net metered solar systems. Net metered installations require no batteries and are altogether a more efficient and cost effective solution for the consumer.

Page 2

January 3, 2007

South Carolina is actually in a unique position concerning net-metering. With the forty states that have net-metering there is a history of which net-metering rules work and which ones do not. The commission can draw on their experience to make sure South Carolina has a fair, progressive and proconsumer net metering program. The Interstate Renewable Energy Council has provided a document that details the specifics of the "Model Net-Metering Rules". It can be found on the web at the following address: http://www.irecusa.org/connect/netmeteringrules.pdf

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments. I hope you will consider net metering as a necessity for the state of South Carolina. Please, adopt net metering in South Carolina for the good of the people and the state's economy, and for the good of this South Carolina environment we all so love.

Sincerely,

**Bruce Wood** 

sunstor@bellsouth.net 864-297-6776 (office) 864-901-2115 (cell)

cc: Office of Regulatory Staff

Grune Wood